Many Kiwanis groups were busy in December making the holidays better for their community. At left, the dog Baily and Elf ‘Alexis’ were with the North Shore Key Club members who distributed gifts at the Cohen Children’s Medical Center on Dec. 23. They brought toys collected from North Shore schools and the North Shore Kiwanis Club. More holiday activities are pictured on Pages 6, 7 and 12.

On Dec. 1, the Kiwanis Club of Howard Beach hosted an event attended by Kiwanis International President Jane Erickson and several other dignitaries. Her visit included a stop at the St. Patrick’s Cathedral. At the dinner, she spoke to the Kiwanians present and received a Britanny Medal, a Kaiser Award, and a KPTC Trauma Kit which will go to a first responder in Nebraska.

Above, from left, former First Lady Helene Irvine, Past Gov. Forbes Irvine, Gus Erickson, President Jane, Gov. Stephen, Past International President Tony Kaiser and District Foundation President Sal Anelli. Kaiser is presenting a Kaiser Award, which is presented by the district foundation, to President Jane.

The annual Mid-Year Conference will take place Feb. 10-12 at the Villa Roma in Callicoon.

Kiwanis International President-Elect Jim Rochford, who is the counselor to the New York District, will be a featured presenter at the conference. Rochford, who has been involved in opening more than 100 new Kiwanis clubs, will present a program in conjunction with the district's Formula Team on new club building and retaining members.

More information is available on Page 4, and from the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org.
When Kiwanians are asked to solve a problem they step up to the plate and more often than not, hit a home run.

As of this writing the New York District has brought in 262 new members. However, the district is only a plus 106 in membership, that’s a problem.

The Formula is an opportunity for Kiwanians to shape the future of their clubs and the service that impacts their communities. By shaping the future we mean new and the service that impacts their communities. That's a problem.

I would like to announce that the NYD Kiwanian who sponsors the most new members from Dec. 1, 2016, through July 31, 2017, will win registration, meals and a room for the district convention in Lake Placid this summer.

At the Mid-Year Conference in February there will be several opportunities to be educated on membership. Kiwanis International President-Elect Jim Rochford will be in attendance with several rising stars in the Kiwanis membership world and will have an extended forum on membership recruitment and club opening. Training will be available for new club openers and club counselors. If your club feels it is in need of assistance, please feel free to contact the club counselor, lieutenant governor or the Formula district chair.

Immediately following Mid-year International President-Elect Jim and his team will be hitting the streets for three days with the intent of opening some new clubs here in the New York district, locations to be announced.

Lastly I would like to welcome Tricia Hook as our membership chair and thank her for all of the wonderful work she has been doing in sending out certificates and "thank yous" to each of our new members and sponsors this year.

I hope to see each of you in February at Mid-Year.

We are through 1st quarter of the 2016-17 administrative year under Gov. Stephen Sirgiovanni and Gio’s Big Dogs. We all have learned in life that it is better is give than to receive. With that in mind, let’s all work on the Gift of Membership for 2017.

What do I mean? Governor Steve has asked EVERY Kiwanian to recruit at least one member to our great New York District. If we REALLY believe that we are the BEST service organization in the world, then inviting some one to join Kiwanis is the best “gift” we could give to a friend, relative, partner, spouse, sibling, adult child, business associate, neighbor or a referral of a prospect given to us.

The gift of membership opens the door to community service, fellowship, bonding, enduring friendships and the ability to fulfill the Kiwanis motto: "Kids Need Kiwanis".

There are many ways to give the gift. Invite some one to a club service project or fundraiser, a club meeting, a Division Council Meeting, a Service Leadership event, a cup of coffee, a walk in the park ... it is limitless!

Why is membership a gift? It is a gift to satisfy the human inner need of helping people and children who are less fortunate than oneself, the satisfaction of knowing that with many hands, much more can be accomplished to change lives than through just individual efforts, and that there is safety and satisfaction in numbers to make progress to improve lives that we can touch locally, regionally and internationally.

The financial investment of a new member fee of $65 is a drop in the bucket to what this individual can do to add to the collective effort to make the world a better place to live. Make an investment and give the gift of membership by asking some one to join Kiwanis. Their financial commitment gives them some skin in the game as well. Also, so many Service Leadership young adults are available to join for free now and only have a financial obligation of $25 for the next TWO administrative years. A club could bear that investment for those two years!

The FORMULA for success is to ASK, don’t take rejection personally and make it a fun experience for those prospects that you are targeting to give them this valuable gift of membership.
2016-17 Governor’s Project is Multi-Faceted

The Governor’s Project for 2016-17 has several parts:

• Autism awareness.
• Juvenile (Type 1) Diabetes awareness and fundraising programs.
• Anti-Bullying efforts.
• Drug Abuse Prevention Program.
• Heart Screenings for student athletes.
• Foundation support.

Help is available for clubs planning to carry out a project.

Keith Cummings is the chairperson of the Anti-Bullying Program. Clubs that want to know more about this program should contact Keith by e-mail, kcmplum66@aol.com. He is willing to come to club meetings and discuss the program.

The Massapequa Club members will present their program on drug abuse prevention to any club.

If you are interested in an athlete cardiovascular screening program, contact Past Lt. Gov. Jeanne Egan to set up a heart screening in your community. She can be contacted by e-mail at post2004@att.net.

Clubs also can support the district’s foundations: District Foundation, Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Centers and the Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation.

More information on the Type 1 Diabetes effort is available from William Basso. He can be reached by e-mail to wedcoach@aol.com. Clubs can invite local experts on diabetes to speak at a club or division meeting, or conduct a public educational campaign.

Autism is a condition that has reached epidemic proportions. Autism or Autism Spectrum Disorder impacts social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication. Clubs can sponsor a speaker at their meeting, or work to plan local events as a club or in conjunction with other organizations.

Forms for clubs to report what they have done under the project can be downloaded from the district website, www.kiwanis-ny.org/govproj.htm.

2017 International Convention is in Paris July 13-16

The 2017 International Convention will be July 13-16 in Paris, France, at the Paris Convention Center.

Registration may be open through the Kiwanis International web site by the time you read this. Registration fees are $300 until April 15, and $400 after that.

You can book your hotel online as well; there are two convention hotels, and according to International, they are close enough to the convention center that no shuttles will be used. Costs start at 190 Euros per day; currently the exchange rate is $1.05 to purchase 1 Euro.

While the International Convention is going on, the Kiwanis International European Federation Convention will be taking place as well.

Information on the candidates running for office in Paris is on the International web site. The proposals which will be considered will be viewable on the web site at least 90 days in advance of the convention.

The opening session will be Thursday July 13, in the evening and the business session will be Friday afternoon.

Friday, July 14, is Bastille Day, a major holiday in France. Friday morning’s schedule is open so that Kiwanians can attend the parade and other Bastille Day activities.

The closing session will be Saturday afternoon.
Mid-Year Conference is Feb. 10-12 at Villa Roma

The 2017 Mid-Year Conference will take place Feb. 10-12 at the Villa Roma Conference Center in Callicoon, the same location as the 2016 Mid-Year.

The conference will begin with business on Friday, Feb. 10, including forums in the afternoon and an opening session in the evening.

Following the opening session there will be a Pajama Party. Those attending are welcome to attend in their pajamas, but they are encouraged to bring with them donations of bedding supplies for Kamp Kiwanis. Items being sought include pillows, sheets, comforters and blankets (all twin sizes).

The party is being hosted by Past First Lady Helene Irvine.

A featured event will be presentations by Kiwanis International President-Elect Jim Rochford, who will present an extended forum on club opening, attracting and retaining members. Rochford, who is the counselor to the New York District, has been involved in opening more than 100 new Kiwanis clubs.

Awards for club achievements during the 2015-16 Kiwanis Year also will be announced during the events Saturday evening.

Participants need to register for both the hotel and the conference. Forms are available on the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org.

Check the web site as well for any updates and additional information.

2017 Mid-Year Conference Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>2:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Luncheon</td>
<td>Noon-12:45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basket Raffle and Display Tables</td>
<td>2:00-4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>1:45-3:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forums</td>
<td>4:45-5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Reception</td>
<td>6:00-8:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Dinner</td>
<td>8:00-9:45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening Session</td>
<td>8:00-9:45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pajama Party</td>
<td>10:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017

Past Governors Breakfast                   | 7:00 a.m.     |
Breakfast                                  | 7:00-9:00 a.m.|
Lt. Gov. Elects Breakfast with Gov.-Elect | 7:30-9:00 a.m.|
Candace Corsaro                           | 7:45-8:45 a.m.|
Registration (closed during lunch)        | 8:30 a.m.     |
Basket Raffle and Display Tables           | 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.|
Forums                                    | 9:00-11:30 a.m.|
Luncheon                                  | Noon-1:00 p.m.|
Forums                                    | 2:00-4:00 p.m.|
2015-16 Recognition Awards                | 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.|
Gala Reception                            | 4:15-5:45 p.m.|
VIP Toast                                 | 6:45-7:30 p.m.|
Gala Governor’s Dinner and Awards         | 7:30-9:00 p.m.|
Show                                      | 10:00 p.m.    |
Game Time                                 | 10:00-11:00 p.m.|

Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017

Breakfast                                  | 8:00-9:45 p.m.|
Foundation Board Meeting                   | 9:00-11:00 a.m.|

Tentative Forum Schedule

Friday, February 10, 2017

4:45 p.m.-5:00 p.m.  • Risk Management  • The Formula  • Fundraising Project Ideas  • TBD
5:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.  • TBD

Saturday, February 11, 2017

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  • Club Secretary Training  • Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation  • Key Club  • Aktion Club  • Branding/Marketing Your Club
10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.  • International President-Elect Part 1  • New York District Kiwanis Foundation - Kamp Kiwanis and Disaster Relief  • K-Kids  • Key Leader  • TBD
11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  • International President-Elect Part 2  • Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Centers  • Circle K  • Youth Protection Guidelines  • TBD
2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  • On-to-Paris  • Builders Club  • Club Treasurer Training  • The Formula  • Service Project Ideas

Divisions Respond to Help Staten Island Fire Victims

Kiwanis clubs and organizations in the New York City area have responded to the needs of a family burned out of their home on Dec. 10.

The Goodman family escaped the Staten Island fire but the house is not inhabitable and they have lost all their possessions. The fire started in a neighbor’s house and spread to theirs.

The family, who previously were driven from a home by Hurricane Sandy, plan to move into a rental home while waiting for their home to be rebuilt.

Metropolitan Division Lt. Gov. Louis Cazzetta was alerted to the situation by Past Lt. Gov. Laura Prange. Cazzetta reached out to the clubs in his division for help for the family, which includes the parents and two children.

A request for help also went out to the Brooklyn Division. Within two weeks they were able to raise $1,500 in contributions including direct contributions and gift cards for stores in the area.

Among the contributors are: Chinatown Kiwanis Club, Sean O’Sullivan from All Island Kiwanis Club, Richmond County Kiwanis Club, South Shore Kiwanis Club, Verrazano Kiwanis Club, Parkway East Kiwanis Club, Allison Guardino from NY Young Professionals, Laura Prange from Port Chester/Rye Brook Kiwanis Club, Richie Greenberg, Jennifer Dominguez and the Richmond University Adopt A Family.

Other Kiwanians are working on legal and insurance issues on the family’s behalf.
Greetings, we hope everyone had a joyful and wonderful holiday season. Helene and I wish you a very Healthy, Prosperous and Happy New Year.

Winter is a wonderful time to check on our seniors, veterans and children. Do they have a warm coat, a warm meal or a warm place to sleep? Does that child in your community have boots that fit? Warm socks, a hat? Have you seen that elderly woman lately? Is she stuck in the house? Does she need milk or eggs? Does her sidewalk need to be cleared? Does that veteran need his medicine picked up or a ride to the doctor?

The members of our clubs are the heart and soul of Kiwanis and the difference that you make in your community is inspiring and the easiest way to attract new members. Your active and engaged club can bring new members to the Kiwanis fold and make a difference. Please remember this year to schedule Keith Cummings to come to your club or divisional to speak about anti-bullying. This is a plague on our children and grandchildren. No child should go to school afraid; no child should be harassed on Facebook or social media. The harassment continues 24 hours a day 7 days a week. This is unacceptable. These are our children. Let’s protect them.

As you know Helene and I are from Staten Island and as you may not know Staten Island has the unfortunate distinction of being the single largest heroin and prescription drug addicted community in the United States. Unfortunately this is not every neighborhood in our district. Please contact the Massapequa Club in The Long Island South Central Division. They have put together a wonderful program and are more then willing to share it with you. This is an exceptional program and a great project for your club to work with Key Club, Circle K or various organizations in your district.

Finally, we ask you to please continue your baby shower projects. Check with your local hospital or mother-baby organization. What do they need? How can you help? Is there another organization that could use your help? This is a fantastic project that helped tens of thousands of newborns. Let’s help thousands more!

We look forward to seeing all of you at this year’s Mid-Winter Conference at Villa Roma in February. As always, if there is anything we can do for you or your club, please don’t hesitate to call us.

Take pictures, serve meals, prepare the video for the end of the event and at least one who knows basic first aid. If you are interested in helping, please email me at dean.keyleader@roadrunner.com for more information.

This year, it is imperative that we hit our goal of 60 sponsored students.

If you are interested in sending students, they can register through the Key Leader website, www.key-leader.org.

Follow the links for registering students. If you would like to sponsor a student, we would ask that you send all sponsorships to Dean Beltrano, c/o Lewiston Kiwanis, PO Box 18, Lewiston, NY 14092.

A full sponsorship for a student is $250. We will accept any/all sponsorships, but ask for at least $100 to go towards a student’s fees.

For all information regarding our event, or if you have any questions at all regarding registration, please contact me. I can be reached at the above email address or at (716) 998-4448.

Please also remember when a club or individual member supports the Kiwanis Children’s Fund, those funds are put to work in the form of grants which any club can apply for, and the “President’s Challenge” which provides incentives back to the district when donation goals are achieved.

Your mindfulness and support of this worthy cause, as always, is greatly appreciated.

The latest information on district events is always available on the district website, www.kiwanis-ny.org.
Kiwanians Busy With Holiday Events

Patchogue Runners Supply Gifts

Out of 1000 entrants, blazing record times were achieved by competitors in ideal cold and clear race conditions for the annual 5K Santa’s Toy Trot sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Patchogue.

The course started and ended at the Shorefront Park in Patchogue.

The male first place winner, Nicolo Filippazzo who posted a new record time of 14 minutes and 36 seconds. The female first place winner, Rolanda Bell, set a new record time of 16 minutes and 48 seconds.

Participants provided 800 new toys for Kiwanis distribution to needy community children for Christmas. Proceeds from the trot were earned for the club’s many child service projects. Members of the Patchogue Kiwanis Club managed the event along with many volunteers including Key Clubbers who helped make the event a great success. Runners and their times may be found at Elitefeats.com. Photos may be found at Santas5KToyTrot.com and facebook page Kiwanis Club of Patchogue.

Mt. Vernon Kiwanis, Golden K


Gov. Stephen took the opportunity to thank the “greatest generation” of Americans for all they have done for our nation and their families, and lauded the members of the Mount Vernon Golden K Kiwanis Club for its past and present service projects led by its club president Dorothy Rock.

Gov. Steve inducted four new members of Mt. Vernon Golden K, a club founded 16 years ago. Joining the Golden K members for the event were Mt. Vernon Kiwanis Presidents Geraldine Christiana, Jason Schaefer, PLG Rosemarie Cornacchio, Secretary Ruby Lohse, and Past International President Tom DeJulio celebrating his 50th year as a member of the Mount Vernon Kiwanis family.

Central Adirondacks

Each Christmas, Central Adirondack Kiwanis provides more than 975 gifts, toys, mittens and food for 55 families and more than 325 kids in the Central Adirondacks including Woodgate, Otter Lake, Thendara, Old Forge, Eagle Bay, Inlet, Raquette Lake, Indian Lake and Long Lake.

Funding for this program comes from various projects. Each year Kiwanis members solicit funds at the door of George T. Hiltebrant Recreation Center during the 40th Annual Central Adirondack Association Snodeo exposition.

Southwest Rochester

On Dec. 8, the Kiwanis Club of Southwest Rochester organized its bell ringing volunteer service to include Aktion Club and RIT Circle K. The newly formed Aktion Club officers rang the bells outside in cold, windy weather.

Glens Falls

The Kiwanis Club of Glens Falls continued its Christmas tradition of giving books to the Head Start children. On Dec. 21, Kiwanian Bob Hafner, playing Santa, visited with some of the classes at the Head Start Center, reading to them, and giving each child a gift-wrapped copy of the book.

Peninsula

Peninsula Kiwanis, assisted by the Molloy College Circle K and the Hewlett High School Key Club, held a Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 10 at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Inwood. More than 150 children had their picture taken with Santa. The children were able to select the background and leave with their photo. In addition 40 coats were given to children in need which had been collected by the Woodmere Middle School Builders Club. Member Domenic Scarrotta filled in for Santa.

Pictured are, in front, Kevin Cooney; Anthony Merendino, Sal Accomando, Dennis Brining, Frank Tavella, Larry Romanelli, Santa, Paul Curra, Chris McGrath, Dominick A. Curra, Vic Liotta, Father Fasano, Michael Gliner, Howie Tompkin, Anthony Russo.
**Sullivan County Aktion Club**

The Aktion Club of Sullivan County is always ready and willing to help with community service activities. During November, they collected non-perishable food items from club members, agency representatives and Kiwanis Co-Advisors and had fun decorating and filling five baskets that were distributed to needy families in the county. Several members participated in the Interfaith Council Thanksgiving Dinner. They greeted the diners and distributed informational flyers. They are looking forward to continuing to reach out to the community during the holiday season by dressing like Santa’s helpers and visiting Achieve Nursing and Rehab Facility in Liberty, where they will hand out gifts and bring some cheer by singing Holiday songs to the residents.

**Roslyn Warriors Aktion Club**

The Roslyn Warriors Aktion club are very active by working with the North Shore K Family. Pictured is the North Shore Aktion Club making spinning tops to be put into shoeboxes as a special fun gift for children in need. These shoeboxes filled with numerous items will be sent world-wide as part of a Key Club project.

**Ken-Ton**

The Kiwanis Club of Ken-Ton We held its annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner Nov. 26. The event was started decades ago as an Eagle Scout Project, sponsored for years by the Sertoma Club (a local service club that no longer exists) and is now sponsored by the Ken-Ton Kiwanis, Kenmore Lions and Zonta Club of Kenmore.

**Port Chester-Rye Brook**

The Kiwanis Club of Port Chester-Rye Brook gathered more than 25 meals to residents in Port Chester that would have otherwise gone without the traditional Thanksgiving meal. The club’s first Thanksgiving Project reached out to businesses, members and the community to sponsor meals that were donated to the Salvation Army. With the help of some of our members and some local children (that we hope will be the start of our Builders Club) we assembled the meals for pick up the next morning.
Community Service was the focus of the Kiwanis Club of Farmington-Victor’s “Spirit of Giving” Dinner Nov. 5 at Cobblestone Creek Country Club. The 11th annual dinner recognized both the Farmington and Victor Citizens of the Year, along with several Helping Hands Awards.

The winners were nominated by members of the community, and were saluted at the dinner, attended by over 110 friends, family, and members of the Kiwanis community. The keynote speaker was Mary Whittier, Executive Director of the Bivona Child Advocacy Center, who spoke of the valuable work they do regarding healing, response and prevention of child abuse through collaborative service, awareness, education and leadership.

The 2016 Farmington Citizen of the Year is Brian Lindsay, who has been a tireless advocate and volunteer for the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard for several years, where he sits on the executive board. Brian also was a long-time Boy Scout leader, Little League Coach, and supporter of the Victor High School Marching Band.

The 2016 Victor Citizen of the Year is Jean Laitenberger. Jean’s long history of volunteerism includes many years with the Victor-Farmington Volunteer Ambulance Corps, Neighbors in Ministry to Seniors (NIMS), Relay For Life, as well as more than 15 years as the treasurer for the Kiwanis Club of Farmington-Victor.

Helping Hands Awards were presented to five residents for their dedication and commitment to community service. Those recognized include Scott and Annalise Parker, Ron Natale, Mary Duprey, and Donna Hill-Herendeen.
The annual Long Island North Division K Family dinner took place Nov. 2 at the Roslyn Swan Club, hosted by the North Shore Kiwanis Club. The event celebrates and honors the Kiwanis Family. District leaders speak, and members of the Kiwanis youth service organizations tell the Kiwanians about their accomplishments. Pictured at right is K-Kids Administrator Mickie Leamey, left, with two K-Kids members who are telling about their activities.

On Nov. 18 the Five Towns Kiwanis held its inaugural Casino Night.

The project was spearheaded by new member Marc Field with a goal of raising funds to help families displaced by home fires.

Tragically, a local family of five suffered a house fire on the day of the event. On Nov. 21 members of the Five Towns Kiwanis donated five $100 gift cards to each of the family members who fled the house without any of their belongings.

At 5 a.m. that morning, the Loveras family of five awoke to find their home on fire. Ten-year old Dianna spoke to 911 and the family exited the home. By the time the fire department arrived the entire structure was engulfed in flames. The family received temporary housing but needed funds to purchase clothing and basic necessities.

Kiwanis Club of Amityville members scraped and re-painted the fence enclosing Amityville’s Nautical Park as its Kiwanis One Day Project.

The park at the end of the Amityville River is on Merrick Road. Main Street, Merrick Road, Route 27A, are the different names, but it’s one long street connecting towns on the South Shore of Long Island, from Rockville Centre in Nassau County to Oakdale in Suffolk County.

Pictured is 2016-17 President Corinne (Corky) Amico at work painting the fence.
What’s in a brand?

When you see the Golden Arches do you immediately get hungry, crave a Big Mac and fries? Do you get thirsty for coffee or a soft drink when you see the Starbucks or Coca Cola logo? That’s the power of the brand – enforced by the logo. These iconic symbols have been around for a while and we have been trained to see the steaming cup of coffee, soft drink on ice, or burger and fries.

Now, what happens when you see the Kiwanis logo? Do you envision kids smiling, a mother getting a tetanus shot, children on the playground, or even a room filled with people at a pancake breakfast?

Kiwanis is about children and we want our audience to attach the “K” with the smiling children or kids just being kids.

Kiwanis International has embarked on a mission to firmly attach these images to our logo which has been streamlined and modernized. The "bird cage" or globe around the K is gone, leaving the K in the circle that has been the foundation of the Kiwanis logo for many years.

Many clubs, divisions and districts that have taken the Kiwanis logo and "tweaked it" into something that it’s not, adding backgrounds or other words. This is the preferred trademarked logo for all in Kiwanis to use.

Trademarks should never be altered. This new information should be used as issued by Kiwanis International so every club, division or district uses the same images, and the visual recognition will build. Along with this KI has developed and keeps developing new tools for us to use, pictures, backgrounds and colors so people all over the world will see the images of Kiwanis.

If you go to Kiwanis.org/brand, you can download logos, pictures and read through the new brand book which will give you information on how to use this information, how to talk or write about Kiwanis and tips on working with local vendors.

Your club can also get a free logo by completing the online form. The process takes a couple of weeks, from first proof to receiving a folder of all files your club will need. To access to the information, go to www.kiwanis-ny.org/logos.htm.

I am here to help you with any questions revolving around the use of our trademarked brand symbols. With the help of all the trained Public Relations Coordinators throughout the Kiwanis world and the team at international, we want to make the transition to this standardized logo and accompanying fonts, colors, backgrounds, etc., simple for you to use.

You should feel free to contact me with your questions (and comments.) The more feedback we get from our members, the easier we can make this process.

### Wristband Frenzy

On Dec. 11 "Wristband Frenzy" took place where the North Shore Key Club hosted an event for the entire community and made 5,000 wristbands to be given out to children with illnesses. The wristbands will be delivered to children who are ill to make them fell better and the first delivery will be Cohen Children’s Medical Center on Dec. 23. This project is part of the Single Service Project 2016-17 working with the Healing Headbands Organization. A special thank you to both founders of the organization, Joan Accolla and Barbara Grapstein, for working with the Key Club.

### New York Represented at Kiwanis Rose Parade

On Dec. 30, Kiwanis Club of Chinatown members James Tong and Grace Tong attended Kiwanis International President's Luncheon at Pasadena University Club in Pasadena, Calif. The event was part of the effort supporting the annual Kiwanis float in the Rose Bowl parade. From left, Kiwanis International President Jane Erickson, Grace Tong, James Tong, K Kids Club Kate Seh, and Larry Madick, president of Kiwanis Club of Pasadena Rose Float.
It’s 2017 and I can’t believe how fast the years have gone by. This is my 10th year of having the privilege to serve as president of the foundation and as president I’ve been blessed to be surrounded by the best board of directors, officers and appointees in the world.

As I stated many times, we have a constant battle in keeping the Kamp in the best shape that it could be, due to the really harsh winters every year many things crop up that need immediate attention.

This past year it was evident that a few items needed to be addressed, most importantly roofs need replacing. The drama hall and the administration building were in really bad shape. The decision was made that the roofs will be replaced with a longer-lasting solution, which is a metal roof. Today we have brand new metal roofs on the drama hall and administration building which will last for a very long time, saving money in the long run.

Of course there are always surprises that arise every year like having a water pipe freeze and burst in the administration building causing a malfunction in the heating system. Kyle Hoffman from the Metropolitan division came to the rescue by supplying all the equipment, material and labor for a brand new hot air heating system which eliminated the old, worn-out hot water system.

Other surprises like the water filters that get patched every year, it was time to replace them, so we ordered new ones and Vice President Joe Battista, as always will be going up there as soon as the weather allows and will be installing the new ones. This is of course, beside all of the other repairs that Joe makes every year.

Then we have board member Herb Chan who decided that the administration building interior needs a revamping, so he demolished and rebuilt the two bathrooms, scraped off the old flooring and put down a new one. He just sees something that needs to be fixed and loads up his truck, gets a few workers and drives from Staten Island, goes and does whatever needs to be done, all at not a single penny cost to the Kamp. Then there is Anthony Merendino who coordinates with Herb so that he can go up there and do whatever electrical work has to be done before Herb closes the walls.

I guess what I am trying to relay to you is that the Kamp always needs funds to operate. There are always surprises that have to be addressed immediately and because this is a brick and mortar business, we always need funds to keep it going.

There are many ways for you to help and the best way is to budget to send kids to Kamp. This past year we had 638 children attend, almost 40 more than last year, let’s try to reach 670 or more, we can do it with your help.

Doctors, researchers, and insurance companies who do not acknowledge chronic Lyme Disease have now invented a bogus label for people who still have symptoms after a short course of antibiotics: "Post-Lyme Syndrome."

Patients abused with this diagnosis are either told that nonliving bacterial toxins are keeping them ill, or worse, that remaining symptoms are psychiatric in nature and they should see a shrink who treats hypochondria and paranoia.

So, many patients end up attempting to treat a raging bacterial infection with talk therapy.

The truth is that chronic Lyme Disease is in fact a real condition, caused by an active bacterial infection, and largely disparaged by conventional medicine. The conclusion that chronic Lyme Disease is not a valid medical condition is so preposterous, so irrational, so unscientific that one can’t help but question whether the presiding research organizations are actually pursuing truth or instead, acting as puppets beholden to a political or medical agenda.

There is simply too much research to ignore. And as time goes on, instead of behaving rationally and slowly examining new research and moving toward adoption of chronic Lyme Disease as a real condition, the regulatory agencies seem to be going in the opposite direction and becoming more adamant about their erroneous conclusions.

The doctors who recognize chronic Lyme Disease, and are willing to treat it, are few and far between. LLMDs use extended courses of very powerful antibiotics, sometimes in combinations of two or three drugs simultaneously, at much higher than FDA approved dosages, to try to help people with chronic Lyme Disease.

But even if patient and LLMD are able to connect, there are still additional obstacles. One of the main obstacles related to chronic Lyme Disease is the cost to treat it. That is where the Kiwanis Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation comes into play. The foundation pays for the treatment and/or medication of a child with chronic Lyme Disease through the issuance of grants. This year the grants will be between $125,000 and $145,000. For the first time in the 16 years that I have been doing this I am afraid that the foundation may not be able to meet its obligations and turn away children who need help.

So I am asking if you do not have a Britanny Fellowship please consider buying one. If you have one please consider the next level which is the Emerald Britanny. If you have both, why not consider the Joseph Michael Wuest Fellowship for your club. If you are among the group that has them all maybe you would consider a small donation to the foundation.

If you have any questions or concerns about Pediatric Lyme Disease please feel free to give me a call. As always, remember that the main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing and in this case the main thing is to help children with chronic Lyme Disease.
Monticello Kiwanis Family Had a Busy December

The Kiwanis Club of Monticello and its service leadership clubs displayed the spirit of the holiday season by helping to bring joy to many children and their families in the community by participating in numerous events in the month of December.

Members of the Kiwanis Club brought toys and games to their holiday dinner. These items were delivered to United Way of Sullivan County and will be distributed to local families in need.

The RJK Middle School Builders Club participated in the school’s Holiday Care Project. They traveled to Walmart by school bus to purchase toys, games and clothing for several students and their siblings from their school district. The following week, several members wrapped more than 100 gifts, including the ones they purchased as well as many items that were donated by school faculty and employees. Other members were kept busy writing more than 40 holiday greeting cards to veterans who reside in various nursing homes in Sullivan County. In addition, they presented two bags of coats, backpacks, etc. to Harold Johnson, a volunteer with the United Way of Sullivan County, who is also a retired teacher from that school district. These items were from the school’s lost and found department and will be distributed to children in need in the community.

The Monticello High School Key Club also shared the holiday spirit by creating its own greeting cards that will be delivered to veterans in local nursing homes.

Builders Club members displaying greeting cards that will be delivered to veterans in local nursing homes.